N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Date of Deposit: December 10, 2004 application of: Before the Examiner Daniel J. Rehm et al. Rita Leykin Serial No. 10/714,170

AUTOMATIC DYNAMIC JOINT TENSIONING SYSTEM

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated above.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Group Art Unit 2837

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Filed November 14, 2003

Sir:

Submitted herewith on the attached form, entitled Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant, is a list of documents of which Applicants are aware which they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(2), copies of the cited U.S. patents are not submitted herewith.

Applicants' attorney is also advised that, in or about July 2001, a piece of equipment at a facility of Fiskars Brands, Inc. was observed that reportedly assembled scissors blades together by driving a screw through the pivot joint to a preset depth. Additional equipment was reportedly seen that opened and closed a pair of scissors and recorded the torque required to do so, displaying the information on a computer screen. The pairs of scissors whose recorded torque did not meet acceptable limits were reportedly rejected from the system and had to be manually adjusted by an operator. Maintenance personnel apparently could use this information to manually reset the screwdriver depth to attempt to achieve the desired torque. The rejection rate reportedly varied from 20-50%.

This statement is being filed before the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no fee is believed to be due. If any fee is due, however, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any such fee except for an issue fee to Deposit Account No. 50-2176.

Respectfully submitted,

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⅓ INFORM TION DISCLOSURE				Filing Date	11/14/2003
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Daniel J. Rehm et al.
				Art Unit	2837
				Examiner Name	Rita Leykin
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	122-2A

			U.S. PA	TENT DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ²	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-5,440,813	08/15/1995	Roskam	
		US-5,461,765	10/31/1995	Linden et al.	
		US-5,694,694	12/09/1997	Roskam	
		US-5,855,054	01/05/1999	Rivera et al.	
		US-6,161,273	12/19/2000	Rivera et al.	
		US-6,415,515	07/09/2002	Wheeler et al.	
		US-6,594,879	07/22/2003	Wheeler et al.	
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Examiner C		Foreign Patent Document	→		Pages, Columns, Lines,		
	Cite		Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Where Relevant Passages or	T	
Initials	No.1	Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Figures Appear		
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not

considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Skind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.